AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

I Claim:

1. (currently amended) A method for creating an individualized directory of computer files, comprising:

    a. prearranging computer files to form a <u>global</u> default directory;

    b. <u>maintaining user customization data in a user customization data file; and</u> ~~retrieving user customization data; and~~

    c. <u>automatically</u> reconfiguring a copy of said <u>global</u> default directory based on said user customization data <u>file</u>, thereby creating an individualized user directory.

2. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein said <u>global</u> default directory includes files in the Internet and/or an Intranet.

3. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising adding files into or removing files from said <u>global</u> default directory.

4. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 further allowing multiple client computers to access said <u>global</u> default directory on a server computer.

5. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising storing user customization data in a user computer.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising providing a user interface for a user to modify files in said user directory.

7. (original) A method according to claim 6 wherein said modification of files in said user directory is at least one of either opening, cutting, copying, pasting, deleting, or renaming.

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim 6 further comprising updating said user customization data <u>file</u> based on the arrangements or modifications by a user.

9. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising collecting user customization data from multiple users in order to form a global usage history.

10. (original) A method according to claim 9 further comprising sending each user request of a file or folder modification from a client computer to a server computer.

11. (original) A method according to claim 9 further comprising updating said global usage history based on subsequent user requests to modify or arrange files or folders.

12. (original) A method according to claim 11 further comprising recording a particular directory modification specified by a user request and the number of requests specifying a particular modification.

13. (original) A method according to claim 9 further comprising storing said global usage history in a database.

14. (currently amended) A method according to claim 9 further comprising updating said global default directory based on said global usage history.

15. (currently amended) A method according to claim 14 further comprising adding, removing, or renaming files or folders in said global default directory based on said global usage history.

16. (currently amended) A method according to claim 15 further comprising modifying attributes of files or folders in said global default directory based on said global usage history.

17. (currently amended) A method for allowing a plurality of users to arrange or modify a directory of files on the Internet or Intranet, comprising:

    a. prearranging computer files on the Internet or Intranet to form a global default directory;

b. maintaining user customization data from each user in a user customization data file ~~retrieving user customization data from each user~~;

c. automatically reconfiguring a copy of said global default directory based on said user customization data file from each user, thereby creating an individualized user directory for each user;

d. providing a user interface for each user to modify files in said individualized user directory;

e. updating said user customization data file based on a modification to said files by the user;

f. collecting user customization data from each user's said user customization data file to form a global usage history; and

g. updating said global default directory based on said global usage history.

18. (currently amended) An apparatus for creating an individualized directory of computer files, comprising:

a. a means for prearranging computer files to form a global default directory;

b. a means for maintaining user customization data in a user customization data file; and ~~a means for retrieving user customization data and~~

c. a means for automatically reconfiguring a copy of said global default directory based on said user customization data file, thereby creating an individualized user directory.

19. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said global default directory includes files in the Internet and/or Intranet.

20. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 18 further comprising means for adding files into or removing files from said global default directory.

21. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 18 further comprising means for sharing said global default directory for allowing multiple client computers to access said global default directory on a server computer.

22. (original) An apparatus according to claim 18 further comprising storing each user's customization data in a user computer.

23. (original) An apparatus according to claim 18 further comprising means for providing a user interface for a user to arrange or modify files in said individualized user directory.

24. (original) A apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said modification of files in said individualized user directory is at least one of either opening, cutting, copying, pasting, deleting, or renaming.

25. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 23 further comprising means for updating said user customization data file based on the arrangements or modifications by a user.

26. (original) An apparatus according to claim 18 further comprising means for collecting user customization data from multiple users in order to form a global usage history.

27. (original) An apparatus according to claim 26 further comprising means for sending each user request for a file or folder modification from a client computer to a server computer.

28. (original) An apparatus according to claim 26 further comprising updating said global usage history based on subsequent user requests to modify or arrange files or folders.

29. (original) An apparatus according to claim 28 further comprising recording a particular directory modification specified by a user request and the number of requests specifying a particular modification.

30. (original) An apparatus according to claim 26 further comprising storing said global usage history in a database.

31. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 26 further comprising means for updating said <u>global</u> default directory based on said global usage history.

32. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 31 further comprising adding, removing, or renaming files or folders in said <u>global</u> default directory based on said global usage history.

33. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 32 further comprising modifying attributes of files or folders in said <u>global</u> default directory based on said global usage history.

34. (canceled)

35. (new) A method for creating an individualized directory of computer files, comprising:

    a. prearranging computer files to form a default directory;

    b. maintaining user customization data in a user customization data file;

    c. automatically retrieving said user customization data each time said default directory is accessed by reading said user customization data file; and

    d. automatically reconfiguring a copy of said default directory based on said user customization data, thereby creating an individualized user directory.